

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached Replacement Sheet 13/16 (Fig. 13) includes changes to label Fig. 13 as "Prior Art" as suggested by the Examiner. A marked-up Annotated Sheet to Show Changes is also enclosed as suggested by the Examiner.

REMARKS

The title and abstract have been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Fig. 13 has been labeled “Prior Art” as suggested by the Examiner, and replacement and annotated sheets 13/16 (Fig. 13) are included. Applicants agree that projection 25 is a distinguishing feature of the invention over the prior art (e.g., Fig. 13), as indicated by the Examiner at the top of page 3. However, Applicants submit that the scope of the invention is not limited to this feature.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite “a connecting portion having a resilient strip portion configured to be connected to a mating terminal,” in view of the Examiner’s suggestion to amend claim 1 in a similar manner. In addition, the final paragraph of claim 1 has been amended to clarify the relationship between the projection portion and the edge portion and not to further distinguish the invention over the prior art.

In the outstanding office action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,950,183). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Watanabe et al. does not disclose a female terminal having all the recited limitations, including, for example “a projection portion formed at a second corner portion located on an opposite side of the face from the first corner portion, the projection portion projecting from the second corner portion in a direction away from the edge portion,” as recited in claim 1. This limitation in claim 1 specifies a face having **both** an edge portion and a projection portion. However, the Examiner considers Watanabe et al. to include “an edge portion at 16 (fig. 3) . . . and a projection portion at 13b[.]” Note that the Examiner points out that the edge portion 16 and the projection portion 13b in Watanabe et al. are part of **different faces**. Specifically, the element, which the Examiner considers to be a projection portion 13b is

part of a face 13 (see Fig. 3) separate from face 16 (i.e., element 16 is the whole top plate, not just the edge of the top plate; see Fig. 1 and 2). Accordingly, Watanabe et al. does not anticipate claim 1.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that claim 1 is allowable over the prior art. Claims 2 and 3 depend from claim 1 and are thus allowable for at least the reasons that claim 1 is allowable. Therefore, Applicants request that the Section 102(b) rejection of claims 1-3 be withdrawn.

The Office Action contains characterizations of the claims and the related art with which Applicants do not necessarily agree. Unless expressly noted otherwise, the Applicants decline to subscribe to any statement or characterization in the Office Action.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

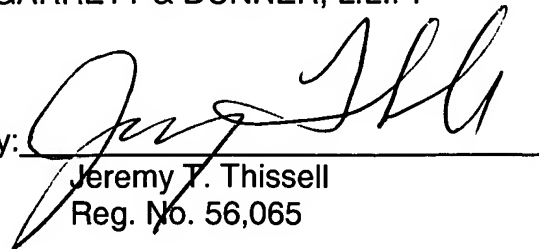
Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: June 13, 2005

By:



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Attachments: Replacement Sheet 13/16 (Fig. 13)
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes (Sheet 13/16, Fig. 13)
Abstract of the Disclosure



13/16

FIG. 13 (PRIOR ART)

